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Nancy Richard
Northeastern University

Joan D. Krizack
Northeastern University

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Preserving the History of Boston's Diversity

Nancy Richard and Joan D. Krizack

*US District Judge Orders Hub Busing Enforced:
Rules School Segregation Deliberate*

Chinatown's P&L Sportswear Closes its Doors

Heat and Beer Blamed in Hub Fiesta Clash

Local Teenager Attempts Suicide: Fellow Students Wonder Why

These headlines appeared in Boston newspapers. The articles they introduce tell each story from the journalist's point of view. Mainstream institutions involved in the events—the courts, law enforcement, schools, and businesses—created records that provide additional information from a mainstream point of view. Often these sources are the only documentation preserved in archives and libraries that are available to researchers. Individuals from the communities involved generally pass on their perspectives on the events by word of mouth. Occasionally, members of the community

or the individuals who were present create oral or written sources in which to preserve their story. Unless mainstream archival repositories or community history groups collect this documentation, it remains unavailable to researchers and leaves the historical record void of these vital viewpoints.

The records of community grass roots organizations provide perspectives different from the information and opinions presented by the media and in more traditional records. They often provide clues for understanding events that may have been ignored, misunderstood, or misrepresented in other sources. They document community accomplishments and the motivation for and the process of organizing for change. They help provide insights into the diversity of individuals and range of opinions within the community, and they help to instill pride in the successes and to evaluate the setbacks. Ensuring that the history of grass roots organizations in Boston's African American, Chinese, Latino, and gay and lesbian communities is secured is the goal of a two-year National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) grant to the Northeastern University Libraries Archives and Special Collections Department entitled, *Preserving the History of Boston's Under-Documented Communities*.

The basic approach of the Northeastern University project is to adapt and use in tandem two archival methodologies originally developed to provide a proactive, systematic approach to documenting a specific locality, topic, or organization to preserve the history of four diverse communities in Boston. Adapting documentation strategy¹ and documentation planning² to assist archi-

¹Helen Willa Samuels introduced the documentation strategy concept in "Who Controls the Past?" *American Archivist* 49 (1986): 109-24.

²For more information on documentation planning, see Joan D. Krizack, ed., *Documentation Planning for the U.S. Health Care System* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1994).

vists in working collaboratively with community members and with other archivists may add a new dimension to the way in which archivists plan and collect documentation.

US District Judge Orders Hub Busing Enforced: Rules School Segregation Deliberate³

Almost twenty years after *Brown v. Board of Education*, the U.S. Supreme Court decision that made de facto segregation in public schools illegal, a group of parents joined the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) in a lawsuit to force the Boston School Committee to integrate the city's public schools. Two years later, the city implemented court-ordered busing, and transported children between neighborhoods to the most racially segregated schools. African American parents failed in their attempts to join with white parents to facilitate the peaceful implementation of busing, providing a warning that the reaction to busing would likely be hostile and perhaps even dangerous. They established an information center and hotline that provided a means of communication among parents, their children, and city officials. They created a network of safe transportation for their children to the all-white schools as an alternative to the school buses that were routinely being stoned and blockaded. This story is chronicled in the records of Operation Exodus, a local parent group that grew out of the Northern Student Movement and its successor the Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity (METCO).

³*Boston Globe*, 22 June 1974, p. 1.

Chinatown's P&L Sportswear Closes its Doors⁴

In December 1985 the closing of P&L Sportswear, once the city's largest garment factory, was a loss to the city, and an even greater loss to Boston's Chinatown and to the 350 workers who were left jobless. The workers, predominantly non-English-speaking Chinese women, were unable to find other employment. By law, the city was required to provide the garment workers with unemployment benefits, including training, but it failed to do so. A few months after the plant closing, however, the city provided both unemployment benefits and training to 150 white men who were laid off from a meat-packing plant. The Chinese Progressive Association helped the former P&L employees prepare a list of demands and organize demonstrations, which quickly led to state funding for retraining and extended health insurance benefits for the workers. The Chinese Progressive Association records document this effort.

Heat and Beer Blamed in Hub Fiesta Clash⁵

Three days of riots, incited by charges of excessive force and racism on the part of the Boston police, became the flashpoint for Latino community organizing in the city. As a result of this disturbance and the subsequent outcry, city officials began to listen to community organizers who were working on issues such as the high unemployment rate, lack of affordable housing, cuts in welfare, elevated high school dropout rates, and needs for bilingual education. Boston's Mayor Kevin White promised immediate action to the leadership of the Emergency Tenants Council,

⁴*Boston Globe*, December 1985.

⁵*Boston Globe*, Monday Evening, 17 July 1972.

now Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción (IBA). IBA's records document the riots and their aftermath.

Local Teenager Attempts Suicide. Fellow Students Ask Why⁶

The young man who attempted suicide was gay. A group of his classmates taunted him routinely. He made repeated requests for support to his teachers which they denied; they told him that the harassment would stop if he just started acting more like the rest of the boys. After his suicide attempt, the young man found solace in the Boston Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Youth (BAGLY), a support group for lesbian and gay teenagers. Through his association with BAGLY, he provided testimony to the Massachusetts legislature that led to the passing in 1993 of the first legislation in the country to protect gay and lesbian students in public schools from harassment and discrimination. BAGLY records document the events that led to this groundbreaking law.

Background

The stories cited above richly illustrate the critical importance of ensuring the preservation of a more balanced historical record. Northeastern's project to preserve the history of some of Boston's most underdocumented communities officially began in September 1998, although its groundwork had been laid much earlier. Its primary goal is to plan for the long-term, systematic preservation of records documenting the African American, Chinese, Latino, and gay

⁶This headline is real; however, the citation to the article is omitted to respect the privacy of the individual.

and lesbian communities in Boston. The project will also process a major collection from three of these communities.⁷

Northeastern is an urban university with a strong commitment to the community in which it resides. Northeastern's particular collecting interest is in records related to one topical area, social justice, building on its collection strengths, and its collecting policy aims to fill the gap in the documentation of the city's diversity. Although Boston is known for its institutions of higher education and its public and private archival repositories, those institutions have neglected the historical records of grass roots organizations dedicated to social change as well as the papers of people of color and other minority populations—with a few exceptions.⁸

Northeastern University Archives and Special Collections Department's acquisition of three significant collections of community records served as the catalyst for writing an NHPRC grant. Prior to the start of the project, the department had transferred—with assistance from members of Boston's African American, Latino, and lesbian and gay communities—records of the National Center for Afro-American Artists, including the records of the Elma Lewis School of Fine Arts; La Alianza Hispana, a Latino multiservice agency; and AIDS Action Committee of Massachu-

⁷The project is not processing a collection from the Chinese community because Northeastern does not have a collection from this community in its holdings.

⁸The University of Massachusetts-Boston has focused for a number of years on collecting community records, particularly from the Dorchester neighborhood in Boston where the university is located. The Schlesinger Library at Radcliffe, Boston University, and Boston College all have some records documenting these communities. For the most part, Boston repositories have not collected in this area.

setts.⁹ This two-part grant has two goals: to process the three collections of records and to develop a plan for documenting Boston's African American, Latino, lesbian and gay, and Chinese communities. The NHPRC provided over \$160,000 of funding to conduct the two-year grant. Northeastern Libraries and in-kind contributions from community liaisons provided the remainder.

Grant description and process

The record-processing piece of the grant is straightforward. Traditional finding aids are being created for the three collections, and the finding aids will be available on the Internet (www.lib.neu.edu/archives/). By working these three collections into the grant proposal, Northeastern convinced NHPRC that it was able to work with the communities successfully. Also, by securing funding to process the collections, the university showed the communities that the archives was serious about making the materials accessible. The innovative part of the grant is the documentation aspect, which was designed to collect and preserve materials actively, not simply to analyze the communities and create plans that would be followed at a later date. Project staff wanted concrete results to demonstrate the viability of their approach and of Northeastern's long-term commitment to the community. As the staff negotiated gift agreements, they attended to some of the other needs articulated by the community. They provided additional support by advising members of the Chinese Historical Society on archival procedures and grant writing; helped an advisor organize a preservation workshop for church historians and other members of the African American community; created a set of informational brochures about preserving community history that was widely distributed; developed a records management manual for nonprofit organi-

⁹The project began in September 1998. The planning piece concludes at the end of August 2000, and the processing piece ends in February 2001.

zations;¹⁰ and will provide active organizations that have transferred records to Northeastern with a documentation plan that outlines the records that should be transferred to Northeastern in the future.

The project staff selected the four specific communities for several reasons: they are among the largest minority communities in the city;¹¹ they each have grass roots organizations that date back thirty to fifty years; and three of the communities were already connected to the Northeastern University Archives by virtue of having a significant collection preserved there.¹² Most importantly, each community had already made significant efforts in documenting itself. The African American community established the African Meeting House in 1964 primarily for research of eighteenth and nineteenth-century African Americans in Boston. The lesbian and gay community and the Chinese community both have long-standing community history groups—the History Project and the Chinese Historical Society of New England. Various members of the Latino community have conducted extensive oral history interviews over the years. Historians and activists in all four of the communities are currently writing accounts of the creation of support networks and services unique to each of the communities. As a result of this self-documentation, the four communities agreed that one of their most pressing needs was for secure and accessible

¹⁰The staff adapted the manual from one created by the Minnesota Historical Society, with funds provided by the NHPRC.

¹¹In 1998 the Massachusetts Historical Records Advisory Board (MHRAB) identified statewide preservation priorities in their Draft Massachusetts Documentation Goals, Annotated List. The four communities chosen for this grant were included in that list. Although MHRAB has begun to set documentation goals for the state, there is no documentation strategy for the City of Boston.

¹²The Chinese community was the only one that had not previously worked with Northeastern University to transfer records to the archives.

storage space for twentieth-century organizational records that document their histories.¹³ This shared need provided the basis for the collaboration.

Because the task of preserving materials to document all aspects of each of the four underdocumented communities is larger than one repository could hope to handle, the project was designed as a collaborative effort. Representatives from more than twenty local repositories are involved, and they have already concluded several informal agreements to assume responsibility for collecting in particular areas.¹⁴ The Massachusetts Historical Society is focusing on the environment; Harvard University's Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine will collect in the area of community and public health; the Massachusetts State Library is interested in the records of politicians and political groups; the Massachusetts College of Art is collecting in the area of fine arts; and Northeastern University is collecting social welfare and reform materials. The Boston Public Library is strengthening its collection of community newspapers with help from the project staff in locating issues to complete broken runs and in identifying new titles to collect. The Schlesinger Library, Bostonian Society, University of Massachusetts-Boston, and others are also actively collecting material in collaboration with this project. Northeastern brokers the transfer of collections to other repositories when appropriate.

¹³Other needs included training and outreach to the community about historical preservation; funding for ongoing oral history projects; and funding for panels, exhibits, and other public forums concerning community history.

¹⁴Rather than rely on the buy-in of other repositories to this project, Northeastern chose to create an all-encompassing plan, to stake out a collecting area of interest, and to invite the other repositories to participate.

This project is built on collaboration within each community as well as with local repositories. The four advisory boards have provided essential information and guidance. Each board consists of activists, academics, and community historians and has one liaison appointed to work closely with the archives staff. Members of the boards were selected because they had demonstrated a commitment to preserving their community's history—in fact, many had participated in making this history. At the same time, each of the boards reflects the diversity within each community so that it represents a broad range of interests, politics, age, and cultural experiences.

Prior to selecting the advisory board members, staff evaluated the documentation strategy tools for use in this project. Starting with the topical breakdown of areas of human endeavor that is the basis of Richard Cox's work on documenting localities,¹⁵ they moved his typology down one level to analyze the four communities—a segment of one of the topics (populations) he has defined—and project staff adjusted the definitions to reflect each community's unique aspects and its relationship to the larger society.

The project advisors began by identifying the universe of possible organizations and individuals to document, categorizing them according to the modified version of the topical breakdown. They enumerated both active and defunct organizations. (See Appendix A for the list created for the Latino community.) Once these lists were

¹⁵Richard Cox, *Documenting Localities: A Practical Model for American Archivists and Manuscript Curators* (Lanham, MD & London: The Society of American Archivists and The Scarecrow Press, Inc., 1996). Categories include: Agriculture; Arts and Architecture; Business, Industry, and Manufacturing; Education; Environmental Affairs and Natural Resources; Labor; Medicine and Health Care; Military; Politics, Government, and Law; Populations; Recreation and Leisure; Religion; Science and Technology; Social Organization and Activity; and Transportation and Communications.

complete, advisors selected the most significant organizations across all topics as priorities for documentation. Although advisors selected the records of defunct organizations as the highest priority for preservation, because they are arguably the most at-risk, the staff contacted priority, active organizations first. Approaching active organizations first has been easier than trying to locate records of defunct organizations, it actually has helped make the resulting networking efforts and publicity to locate the records of defunct groups.

Project staff further analyze organizations whose records are donated to Northeastern and create documentation plans that systematically identify historical records for future transfer. Although archivists developed this methodology for those whose primary responsibility is to document a single institution or organization, project staff adapted it for use by archivists who are collecting the records of many active organizations. Staff and the NHPRC will measure the effectiveness of this project in part by the ability of participants to combine the analysis and planning stages with the successful transfer of a number of priority collections, and also in part by the long-term relationships developed with the communities.

Methodology

In his work on documenting ethnic communities in Los Angeles, Luke Gilliland-Swetland raised concerns about using archival models of documentation for multicultural populations.¹⁶ He argues that the reasons ethnic communities document themselves and the ways in which they choose to do so seem far removed from the motivation and methods that archivists bring to the task. He also cautions that

¹⁶Luke Gilliland-Swetland, "The Native in Our Midst: Documenting Ethnic Communities," *Society of American Archivists Acquisition & Appraisal Section Newsletter* 1 (March 1999):1-2.

there may be ethical implications of the cultural imperialism implicit in archival methodologies and the desire to document diversity.

Although it is true that much of the history and culture of underdocumented communities is transmitted through an oral tradition, records created by grass roots organizations are in danger of being lost to the historical record. Community history groups may focus on collecting oral histories and visual documentation as an essential first step, but unlike archivists these groups often do not have the resources necessary to collect and manage a large volume of records. Not only do organization records exist, but their creators have generally gone to great lengths to preserve them—often in the basements of many small and underfunded offices and in the homes of community organizers. The increasing number of researchers and writers who are beginning to publish accounts of community activism and who are looking for the minutes, correspondence, reports, grant proposals, and publications of these groups reinforces the value of these organization records.

The tools and procedures developed by archivists to document localities reveal biases inherent in the language when applied to a narrower focus such as documenting specific populations. The topical definitions in Cox's *Documenting Localities* provide a few good examples of this, for example, those of *Populations* and *Social Organization and Activity*. Since the project is analyzing minority cultures, both of the categories proved problematic. For example, the definition of *Populations* reads:

...ethnic and racial organizations formed to promote immigration or to assist immigrants or minorities; or-

ganizations formed to assist and lobby for special population elements such as the elderly and handicapped; and with unique value for documenting the experience of the various populations such as minorities, special social groups...¹⁷

The definition of *Social Organization and Activity* reads:

...a broad range of human endeavor, including activities, lifestyles, problems, and the changing nature of ways of coping with life by individuals, families, and special groups. Organizations formed to support their members or institutions, individuals involved in and groups formed to lobby for or promote special interests such as opposition to social injustice, reform, rights and societal changes, and welfare agencies and associations formed to assist certain underprivileged or disadvantaged elements of society.¹⁸

Neither of these categories accurately reflects community activism or the activities of populations that celebrate and reinforce their culture and diversity. They also do not reflect language that would be used by these groups in describing themselves. Words like "coping," "special interests," and "lifestyles," or phrases such as "underprivileged or disadvantaged elements of society" do not necessarily reflect the perspectives of community members.

The project called for a different approach that would bring to light the richness and diversity within each community. Project staff's solution was to revise the definitions of some of the cat-

¹⁷Cox, *Documenting Localities*, 141.

¹⁸*Ibid.*, 145.

egories and to list subtopics to all of the categories, which accommodated the similarities as well as the differences among all four communities. Staff revised Cox's Populations category, renamed it *Populations and Social Activity*, and redefined it to include not only issues of immigration and settlement but also identity support groups and associations to promote activities that preserve and celebrate a culture. They converted Social Organization and Activity to a two-part category, *Social Reform* and *Social Welfare*. In this split, Social Reform encompasses civil rights, organizations dedicated to societal and political change and opposition to social injustice through grass roots efforts, and Social Welfare represents charitable and welfare organizations that provide basic services to communities as well as multiservice and community development groups established by communities to provide basic services to their own members. In a parallel documentation project, New York State Archives, State Education Department was working on redefining topical categories. A more comprehensive Documentation Topics Framework (see Appendix B) has resulted from the cooperation between the New York and Boston projects.¹⁹

Conclusion

With appropriate modifications to the language and categories, project staff has found the topical breakdown useful in providing a framework for identifying the universe of organizations and individuals that might be documented by archivists or by the communities themselves. The consensus among advisory board members is that

¹⁹The New York State Archives, State Education Department, with cooperation from Northeastern University's *Preserving the History of Boston's Under-Documented Communities* project, developed this framework. It builds upon a New York history topics list developed at the State Archives in 1989; a similar list can be found in Richard Cox's *Documenting Localities*, pp. 132–47.

the project design has provided a productive, enjoyable, and conflict-free way to reflect on the community's accomplishments while working together to help develop a plan for preserving its documentary record. When participants organize information in this topical framework, instead of chronologically, it allows them to think about their history both more broadly and more systematically. Rather than concluding that archival tools are not appropriate for documenting diversity, archivists might consider how the tools can be revised and shared along with other resources to support and enhance the work of the communities in order to make history more inclusive.

Nancy Richard is special projects coordinator for Northeastern University Libraries Archives and Special Collections Department and project coordinator for the grant. **Joan D. Krizack** is university archivist and head, Special Collections Department at Northeastern University. She has had a long-standing interest in fostering diversity of both collections and archivists and was a member of the Society of American Archivists Task Force on Diversity. The authors originally delivered this article as a paper at the 1999 annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and presented a revised paper at the 1999 annual meeting of the Society of Georgia Archivists in St. Simons Island, Georgia.

APPENDIX A

Latino Community Organizations—Active

* indicates that the organization's records are in an archives.

** indicates that NU has begun negotiations for the organization's records.

Bold entries represent the organizations selected as the highest priority.

Agriculture

Urban Agriculture

Arts/Architecture

Music

Humano

Music

Sol y Canto

Business

Business Councils

Greater Boston Hispanic Lions Club

Business Councils

Hispanic American Chamber of Commerce

Business Councils

Hyde Square Business Association

Business Councils

Main Streets Project

Businesses

Libreria Fellowship Emmanuel Bookstore

Professional Assoc.

Latino Professional Network

Communications

Print Media

El Mundo/Caribe Communications (microfilmed at BPL)

Print Media

La Semana

Radio

1330 AM (Caribe Communications)

Radio

Con Salsa (WBUR)

TV

Cuencavision (Ch. 26)

TV

La Plaza* (WGBH) (Raquel Ortiz)

Education

Advocacy

Latino Parents Association

Community Education

Casa del Sol

Community Education

English Language Center

Community Education

League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)

Community Education

Oficina Hispana de Jamaica Plain

Primary/Secondary

Rafael Hernandez School (1st bi-lingual public school)

Primary/Secondary

Talent Search (see HOPE)

Health

Advocacy	Latino Health Institute
Advocacy	Multicultural AIDS Coalition
Advocacy	Soldados de Salud
Professional Assoc.	National Hispanic Psychology Assoc.—Boston Chapter
Provider	Boston Healthy Start Initiative—Latino Services
Provider	Brookside Community Health
Provider	Casa Esperanza
Provider	Latinas y Niños
Provider	Martha Elliot Center (Children's Hospital)
Provider	Massachusetts Immigrant Health Access Coalition
Provider	South End Community Health Center (Columbia Pt., Roxbury Comp.)
Provider	Southern Jamaica Plain Health Center (Brigham and Women's)

Military

Veterans	Puerto Rican Veterans of Boston
Veterans	William Joiner Center*

Politics

Country of Origin	National Congress for Puerto Rican Rights
Country of Origin	Dominican political parties
Country of Origin	Latinos and Latinas for Social Reform
Electoral Politics	Massachusetts Democratic Party—Latino Committee
Electoral Politics	Republican National Hispanic Assembly
Lobbying	Latino American Advisory Commission
Public Policy	Mauricio Gaston Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy

Populations

Center	Casa Don Pedro Albizu Campos
Culture/History	Caribbean-American Historical Cultural and Theatrical Co.
Culture/History	Dominican Festival
Culture/History	El Jolgorio
Culture/History	Festival Betances (see IBA)
Culture/History	Festival Puertorriqueño, Inc./Puerto Rican Parade
Culture/History	Pan American Society of New England

Latino Community Organization—Active, continued

Populations, continued

Immigration	Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition
Photos/Oral history	Amy Moreno, Angel
Photos/Oral history	Cuadrado, Luz
Photos/Oral history	Del Valle, Orlando
Photos/Oral history	Duarte, Sister Carlotta*(BPL)
Photos/Oral history	Massó, José
Photos/Oral history	Mendoza, Tony
Photos/Oral history	Uriarte, Mirén
Social/Support	Comité de Mujeres Puertorriqueños
Social/Support	Latina Pioneers
Social/Support	Mango con Piqué

Recreation

Centers	Boys and Girls Club of Boston
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Religion

Catholic	Hispanic Apostolate (Archdiocese)
Catholic	Sagrado Sacramento
Catholic	San Pablo
Catholic	San Patricio
Catholic	San Pedro
Catholic	Santa María De Los Angeles
Pentecostal	Berea Seventh Day Adventist Church
Protestant	

Social Reform

Civil Rights	Greater Boston Legal Services (NU?)
Professional Assoc.	Massachusetts Association of Hispanic Attorneys
Social Change	Casa Myrna Vazquez
Social Change	Ecumenical Social Action Committee

Social Welfare

Community Dev.	Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD)
Community Dev.	Agencias Latinas Unidas (CAHA, Carlos Martinez)
Community Dev.	Casa Nueva Vida
Community Dev.	Centro Presente
Community Dev.	City Life/Vida Urbana

Community Dev.	Dudley St. Neighborhood Initiative**
Community Dev.	Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción** (NU)
Community Dev.	Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership
Community Dev.	Nuestra Comunidad Development Corp.
Community Dev.	Roxbury Action Program
Community Dev.	South End Neighborhood Action Program (see ABCD)
Community Dev.	Tent City Corporation*
Community Dev.	Urban Edge Housing Corporation
Multi-Service	Boston Hispanic Center (see ABCD), Joanna Ibañez
Multi-Service	Concilio Hispano (Cambridge)
Multi-Service	El Centro del Cardenal* /Catholic Charities (Archdiocese of Boston)
Multi-Service	Hispanic Office for Planning and Evaluation (HOPE)** (NU)
Multi-Service	La Alianza Hispana*
Multi-Service	Mujeres Unidas en Acción
Multi-Service	ROCA
Multi-Service	Sociedad Latina** (Julia Ojeda)
Multi-Service	United South End Settlements

Latino Community Organizations—Defunct

Agriculture

Urban Agriculture	Boston Urban Gardens* (now defunct, UMass)
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Arts/Architecture

Centers	Areyto Cultural Education Program (IBA)
Centers	Centro Cultural del Caribe
Centers	Escuela de la Arte

Business

Businesses	Red Book Store
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Communications

Media Alert	Massachusetts Latino Media Group
Print Media	El Carillion (BPL)
Print Media	El Universal
Print Media	Expresion Hispana
Professional Assoc.	Assoc. of Latin Americans in Communications

Latino Community Organizations—Defunct, continued

Communications, continued

TV	Aquí
TV	Channel 6
TV	Nosotros

Education

Advocacy	Asociación de Educadores Hispanos
Advocacy	El Comité de Padres (David Cortiella)
Advocacy	Hispanic Educational Network
Community Education	Fundación Puente
Community Education	South End Spanish Program
Community Education	Women Teaching Women
Community Education	Women's Inner City Educational Resource
Job Training	Jamaica Plain Occupational Resource Center
Primary/Secondary	Escuela de Acción
Primary/Secondary	Escuelita Agüeybana (see IBA)

Health

Advocacy	Amigas Latinos Pro Salud (ALAS)
Advocacy	Jibaro
Advocacy	Poro Afro
Provider	Boricua Health (Harvard University, Luis Garden)
Provider	Peter Bent Brigham Hospital Spanish Clinic

Labor

Advocacy	Boston Jobs for Boston People
Union	Latino Construction Workers Movement

Politics

Country of Origin	Caucus Puertorriqueño
Country of Origin	Coalición Proliberació de los Presos Politicos Puertorriqueños
Country of Origin	Puerto Rican Socialist Party
Electoral Politics	Latinos for Mel King (and other politicians)
Electoral Politics	Latino Political Task Force
Lobbying	Hispanic

Populations

Center	Center Cultural Latinos
Culture/History	Firehouse Multicultural Arts Center

Culture/History	Hispanic Society of New England
Culture/History	Marchas Antorcha
Immigration	Puerto Rican Entering and Settling Services (PRESS)**NU)
Social/Support	Club Antorcha
Social/Support	El Comité de Homosexuales y Lesbianas
Social/Support	LUNA
Social/Support	LesLa
Religion	Instituto Biblico Arca de Noé
Social Reform	
Social Change	Central American Solidarity Association
Social Change	Latin American and Caribbean Solidarity Association (LACASA)
Social Change	Mothers for Adequate Welfare - Hispanic chapter
Social Change	Puerto Rican Organizing Center
Social Change	Spanish Inmates Project
Social Welfare	
Community Dev.	Boricuas de Mission Hill en Acción
Community Dev.	Colectivo Puertorriqueño de Boston**
Community Dev.	Hispanic/Jewish Dialogue
Community Dev.	Latino Community Volunteer Corps
Community Dev.	Latino Coordinating Committee
Community Dev.	Mission Hill Planning Commission
Community Dev.	Movimiento Hispano en Acción
Community Dev.	Puerto Rican and Hispanic Coalition of Massachusetts
Community Dev.	South End Project Area Committee
Community Dev.	Upgrowth
Multi-Service	APCROSS
Multi-Service	Comité Hispano de Servicios Humanos
Multi-Service	Concilio Hispano (de Boston)
Multi-Service	Denison House*
Multi-Service	Hogar Hispano (homeless shelter)
Multi-Service	Spanish Center at Columbia Point

Latino Community Individuals

Agriculture

Urban Agriculture Dominguez, Angel (?)

Arts/Architecture

Architecture	Domenech, Fernando
Arts	Bresnehan, Cecilia
Dance	Oyola, Felita (?)
Dance	Ruiz, Juan and Alicia
Fine/Graphic Arts	Alizair, Luis
Fine/Graphic Arts	Estrada, Quique
Literature	Espada, Martin
Music	Bruno, Melania
Music	Calaf, Dolores
Music	Prado, Luis

Business

Business Councils Barrios, Tony

Communications

Print Media	Cuenca, Peter (NY)
Print Media	Diaz Sanmarie, Dalia
Radio	Massó, José
TV	Artau, Guillermo
TV	Insermi, Jorge
TV	Ortiz, Raquel
TV	Quiroga, Jorge
TV	Salcedo, Angel
TV	Vasallo, Jr. Alberto
TV	Vasallo III, Alberto

Education

Community Education	Martinez, Armando
Higher Education	Arroyo, Felix
Higher Education	Garfinkle, Aura
Higher Education	Meyerson David, Lucia

Environment

Policy and Planning	Colon, Melvin
Policy and Planning	Gaston, Mauricio
Policy and Planning	Torredo, Miguel (NY)

Health

Advocacy	Amaro, Hortensia
Advocacy	Mesa, Tito
Advocacy	Piore, Michael

Military

Veterans	Rodriguez, Jaime
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Politics

Appointments	Rodriguez, Conchita
Electoral Politics	Barrios, Jarrett
Electoral Politics	Merced, Nelson**
Electoral Politics	Pola, Carmen
Electoral Politics	Rodriguez, Alex
Electoral Politics	Rodriguez, Angeles
Law and Public Policy	Clavel, Mario
Law and Public Policy	Garcia, Frieda
Law and Public Policy	Grabal, Charlie
Law and Public Policy	Perez, Luis

Social Welfare

Community Dev.	Molina, Tony (also Populations)
	Freixas, Yohel Camayd

APPENDIX B

Documentation Topics Framework based on the New York Project

Introduction

This framework of 18 broad topics is designed to support efforts to build a comprehensive, balanced, and equitable documentary record of New York's history and culture. Given the enormous scope, diversity and significance of human activity, knowledge, and experience in and about New York, the task of creating a comprehensive documentary record is daunting indeed. Without some rational framework for organizing the range of possible topics for documentation, it would be nearly impossible. This list attempts to meet that need.

The paragraph for each main topic first defines the topic broadly, then offers several subtopics and examples. The framework of main topics is intended to be comprehensive; the subtopics and examples suggest the scope of the topic but are not exhaustive. A researcher exploring a subject or an archivist with *any* collection relevant to New York should be able to find at least one home for it within this framework. Similarly, an archivist or repository planning to document a topic, a geographical area, or a population group should find here a comprehensive range of possible topics for documentation.

There is inevitable overlap among the topics. Each main topic serves as a lens through which to gain a particular perspective on aspects of New York history and contemporary life. A subtopic or a collection of documents may be viewed through several lenses, revealing its different dimensions. For example, documentary records pertaining to the siting of solid waste transfer stations in New York City will be relevant to *Environmental affairs and natural resources*, *Health*, *Politics, government and law*, *Populations and social activity* (both by region and by ethnicity, since many sites are in Latino/a or African American neighborhoods), and *Social reform and welfare*. Similarly, many topic areas include substantial business sectors, but there is also the umbrella category of *Business, commerce and industry*.

A word about *Populations and social activity*: The members of groups that fall under this category generally participate in the full range of human experience and activity listed under the other seventeen topics. So while the social activities of, say, Latino/as or people from Western New York belong under this category proper, the distinctive Latino/a or Western New York dimensions of *business or education or health*, for example, may be important subtopics for documentation under these other categories.

The primary purpose of this framework is to serve as a point of departure for documentation planning. It can help archivists and curators place and evaluate the importance of particular collections or kinds of collections within the broad

context of New York's history, and it can help them identify and figure out where to look for documentation of important topics that are not well represented in the current historical record.

Agriculture: The production, processing, promotion, and distribution of agricultural commodities. Important components may include: research in horticulture, animal husbandry, other agricultural sciences, and agricultural economics; farming, including small-scale family farms, farming cooperatives, large corporate operations, farming by migrant workers or immigrant groups, including practices related to country or place of origin, organic farming, fish farming, urban agriculture, urban gardens, and other non-traditional methods; distribution and marketing businesses and organizations, including community-based food co-ops; groups such as agricultural societies, agricultural fairs, and professional agricultural organizations formed to advocate, educate, or promote in relation to agricultural policy issues and concerns; and individuals prominent in agricultural affairs. Agricultural topics distinctively relevant to particular population groups.

Arts, architecture, and culture: The production, presentation, promotion, and sponsorship of visual and graphic arts and design, performing arts (music, dance, theater, performance art), literature, film and media arts, including folk and community-based arts, popular arts and entertainment, and fine arts. Architecture and the built environment, including commercial, residential, institutional, and landscape architecture; architectural scholarship and training. The documentation and artifacts that record history and culture. Cultural expressions of everyday life including folklore, language, food, fashion, and family and community events such as festivals and celebrations. Important components may include individual artists, and writers; institutions, organizations, and businesses supporting, teaching, presenting, producing, or promoting the arts, including art museums and galleries, concert halls, community arts schools, etc; architectural firms, individual architects, and professional associations of architects; repositories of history and culture such as libraries, archives, museums, and historical societies; scholarly research in the arts and humanities. Cultural topics distinctively relevant to particular population groups. Also professional associations and organizations engaged in issues of public policy in culture and the arts.

Business, commerce, industry, and manufacturing: The production of goods and services for commercial use, buying and/or selling goods and services for a profit, and lobbying for, assisting, or promoting business concerns. Important components include single proprietorships, partnerships, corporations, or cooperative associations; chambers of commerce, business councils, boards of trade, service, professional, and trade associations, and benevolent associations; scholarly research in economics and business; topics distinctively relevant to particular population groups, and individuals prominent in business.

Communications: Any means of transmitting information or entertainment. Newspapers and other print media, television and radio stations, the Internet and other electronic communications media, public relations and advertising, directories, citizen media alert or censorship groups that monitor communications, government agencies and regulatory bodies with responsibility for communication services, topics distinctively relevant to particular population groups. Also professional associations and prominent individuals related to communications.

Economic development and planning: Governments, businesses, and organizations that engage in urban, town, and rural planning for economic development and land use; organizations formed to advocate for and attract business, jobs, and development; organizations, groups, and individuals formed to oppose further development, challenge existing or proposed plans, or propose alternative development and land use strategies; topics distinctively relevant to particular population groups. Scholarly research in economics and planning.

Education: The education, training, and instruction of individuals. Important components may include public, private, and vocational education at the pre-school, primary, secondary, and post-secondary levels; community, after-school, and adult education including speakers bureaus; libraries and archives; individual school administrators, teachers, professional educators and educational theorists and students; and groups formed to support, monitor, or change the educational system or to support students, teachers, parents, or administrators. Educational topics distinctively relevant to particular population groups. Also scholarly research in education and professional associations of educators.

Environmental affairs and natural resources: The utilization of natural resources (air, energy, plants, animals, minerals, land, and water), their conservation and related environmental issues, the effect of environmental hazards on human populations and other life forms, and the development and implementation of public policy and planning related to the environment. Important components may include research in environmental sciences and public health; organizations established to promote environmental conservation, preservation, and increased awareness of environmental affairs; industries, businesses and organizations that make direct use of natural resources or respond actively to environmental issues, topics such as the environmental justice movement distinctively relevant to particular population groups, and individuals prominent in environmental affairs.

Health: Research in medical and health sciences and public health and the provision of medical and mental health services, including allopathic medicine and alternative approaches to medicine and health care. Important components include individual physicians and other health care personnel; businesses and organiza-

tions such as hospitals, clinics (including grassroots neighborhood organizations), public health organizations, and health care organizations involved in research and delivery of health care services; also individuals in private practice; organizations that provide advocacy, education, support and referrals related to general or specific health issues; government regulatory and funding agencies; health topics distinctively relevant to particular population groups; professional and other associations related to the health industry or health issues; and individuals making significant contributions in health research, health care, or health policy.

Labor and Occupations: Organized labor for the promotion of better working conditions, employment, security, and related concerns. Important components may include individuals involved with the development of organized labor, strikes, boycotts or other labor-related events; and organizations such as labor unions, white collar employee associations, and employee support groups or advisory services. Labor issues distinctively relevant to particular population groups. Also working people and working conditions outside of organized labor. Occupations—the organization, economics, social and cultural characteristics, skills, working conditions, and experiences associated with various occupations.

Military: The prosecution of war or insurrection, civilian participation in wartime activities, military sites, peacetime military enterprise, and organizations formed to support military action, soldiers, veterans groups, and other related activities. Important components may include individuals who participated in the military or in support services to the military; civil defense, economic impact, and other aspects of civilian participation; organized groups to support the military and related issues through lobbying, education, and promotion; organized groups to protest the military and military action in the United States or other countries; and topics distinctively relevant to particular population groups.

Politics, government and law: Political, governmental, and judicial activity at the federal, state, and local levels that affects the inhabitants of an area. Creation and administration of laws, provision of government services, protection of the rights of citizens. Elected and appointed public officials; government agencies and programs. Such activity creates and administers laws, provides many services, and protects the rights of the citizens. Important components may include individuals active in political affairs, holding appointed and elected public positions, and involved in judicial activities, local and county government agencies and programs; state and federal agencies and programs with important ties to the locality and region; and organizations and movements seeking political change or encouraging participation in the political process. Also, organizations and movements seeking political change in other countries. Issues distinctively relevant to particular population groups. Scholarly research in politics, government and law. Professional

associations relating to politics and individuals prominent in political affairs.

Populations and social activity: Includes groupings by geography or place of origin; cultural, ethnic, religious or racial identity or background; gender, age, sexual orientation, ability/disability, and economic or social class. A broad range of sub-topics including activities, lifestyles, and changing ways of life of individuals, families and particular groups. Population movements of immigration, migration, and emigration; process of settlement; distinctive aspects of living within communities and neighborhoods or as part of population groups. Groups and organizations formed according to group identity for support, advocacy, or education. Also, attitudes, ranging from high esteem to bigotry and prejudice, and related activities directed toward populations and groups. Components include activities and organizations that reveal the nature of domestic, family, and community life, such as social clubs, fraternal organizations; genealogy, daily life, culture and cultural influences, cultural sensibilities, language, family and community associations, friendship networks, and community centers. Historical societies, museums, other associations, and individuals, such as local historians, documentary photographers and filmmakers, and others, who preserve, present, or interpret the history and culture of locales, organizations, individuals, or population groups. Activities and events that celebrate a culture. Research related to populations.

Public Safety: Managing and preserving public safety by public servants or the community, police/community relations, crime and criminals, monitoring and responding to hate crimes and domestic violence, victim recovery. Public safety topics distinctively relevant to particular population groups. Research in criminology and other disciplines related to public safety. Also professional associations relating to public safety.

Recreation and leisure: Sports, outdoor recreation, hobbies, travel, and group activities occurring during leisure time. Businesses such as resorts, health clubs, and professional sports teams; and organizations, associations, clubs, and advocacy groups formed around specific leisure activities such as mountain clubs, fishing tournaments, and literary societies. Recreation and leisure topics distinctively relevant to particular population groups.

Religion: Religious denominations and groupings of all religious faiths; religious and spiritual movements. Churches, synagogues, mosques and meetings houses; organizations formed to promote religious activities; programs, camps, organizations, social service agencies sponsored by religious denominations. Individual religious or spiritual leaders or exemplars. Religious topics distinctively relevant to particular population groups. Also scholarly research and professional associations relating to religion.

Science and technology: Encompasses both pure research in the natural and physical sciences and its applications to society through disciplines such as engineering, information technology, and bio-technology. Components include individual researchers, academics, others prominent in scientific and technological fields; corporations, businesses and organizations involved in research and delivery of services, such as pharmaceutical firms, manufacturers of information technology, bio-engineering firms, and university-affiliated research centers; government research, regulatory, and funding agencies; professional and other associations formed for the advancement and promotion of science and technology; and topics distinctively relevant to particular population groups.

Social reform and welfare: *Reform*—Efforts to achieve or oppose social, economic, and political change, including grassroots efforts outside of mainstream organizations. Individuals, organizations, and activities that address issues such as civil rights and discrimination related to population groups, animal rights, environmental affairs, war and peace, health care, abortion/reproductive rights, public safety (including domestic violence, neighborhood watch groups, hate crimes, gun control, death penalty, police actions, etc.), welfare reform, trade/globalization. Also scholarly research related to social reform. *Welfare*—Efforts to promote the welfare of disadvantaged members of society. Individuals and philanthropic, charitable, and welfare agencies and associations that provide support and services that are otherwise insufficient or not available to a population because of economic status, discrimination, or insensitivity. Community development and improvement including fair housing, and economic reform. Professional associations relating to social welfare. Also scholarly research related to social welfare.

Transportation: The development, implementation, and impact of transportation systems. Components include those of individuals prominent in the development of such systems, the impact of these systems on communities and population groups; businesses involved in the promotion, development, and offering of systems such as air, ground, and water transportation; government agencies and regulatory bodies with responsibility for transportation; organizations formed to advocate for the improvement or change in transportation services.

